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NEWS.

MR. J. G. JACK will conduct a series of lectures and field meetings at the Arnold Arboretum during the autumn, for the purpose of supplying popular instruction about the trees and shrubs which grow in New England.

THERE HAS just been organized the "Louisiana Society of Naturalists." It is incorporated, and starts out with nearly forty-five members, nearly all of whom are workers in some branch of natural science. The secretary is Mr. E. Foster, of New Orleans.

MR. W. L. BRAY, who has just returned from work at the University of Berlin, has accepted a position in the University of Texas in charge of the botanical work. As his recent studies have been along ecological lines, the flora of Texas will receive his chief attention.

THE CURRENT NUMBER (September) of *Popular Science Monthly* contains an account of "The giant cactus," by Professor J. W. Toumey, and a paper upon "The scope of botany," by Professor George J. Peirce.

THE ILLUSTRIOUS Danish naturalist Japetus Steenstrup died at his home in Copenhagen on June 20, 1897, at the advanced age of 84 years. Although his most prominent works were purely zoological, he also contributed largely to the progress of botanical science. Besides being one of the editors of *Flora Danica*, he made extensive studies of the subfossil fauna and flora of the Danish peat-bogs, the result of which enabled him to demonstrate the pre-historic nature and culture in Denmark. His lectures in natural history and his warm interest for his pupils have made him one of the most popular and most admired of Danish naturalists.—THEO. HOLM.